

BOBBY JINDAL GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana

KEVIN DAVIS

Governor's Office of Homeland Security and

Emergency Preparedness

PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Veronica Mosgrove veronica.mosgrove@la.gov (225) 358-5667

GOVERNOR JINDAL PROCLAIMS HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WEEK

BATON ROUGE (May 25, 2012) – Governor Bobby Jindal has proclaimed May 27- June 2 Hurricane Preparedness Week. The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) is encouraging every Louisiana citizen to begin preparing for the 2012 Hurricane Season.

"We've already seen some tropical activity and hurricane season hasn't officially started yet. Regardless of predictions on how active hurricane season will be, it only takes one bad storm to disrupt the lives of our citizens. GOHSEP urges everyone to get a game plan and be ready now for any and all hazards," said GOHSEP Director Kevin Davis. "I'd also like to remind everyone that the state has an annual sales tax holiday for the sale of hurricane preparedness items or supplies," Davis added. The 2012 Louisiana Hurricane Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday is scheduled for Saturday, May 26th and Sunday, May 27th.

Hurricane season begins on June 1st and lasts until November 30th. During this six month season, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) predicts a "near-normal" hurricane season in which there will be anywhere from nine to 15 named storms in 2012. Hurricane hazards can come in many forms, including storm surge, high winds, tornadoes and flooding.

GOHSEP's Get a Game Plan website (<u>www.getagameplan.org</u>) is a place where families, businesses and even kids can visit to learn how to be prepared.

The hurricane evacuation guides in English, Spanish and Vietnamese are available through American Red Cross (ARC) chapters throughout the State of Louisiana.

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